

## BOOK NOTICES

PATTERSON, WILMA. 1990. **A Fountain of gardens. Plants and Herbs of the Bible.** (ISBN: 0-87951-461-2, hbk). The Overlook Press, Lewis Hollow Road, Woodstock, New York, NY 12493. \$35.00. 160 pp.

This book describes the important plants mentioned in the old and new testaments (Bible). The plants illustrated are arranged in an alphabetical manner. There are about 70 full color illustrations. This book also discusses the recipes for cosmetics, herbal cures, potpourris and foods, as well as hints on growing some of the plants. There are a bibliography, picture sources and an index. This book will be useful for those who find the scriptures important for religious reasons, for those who enjoy plants and finding new uses for them, and those who get pleasure from the pictures of a bygone age which the bible portrayed.—*Krishna Puttaparthi*.

STEVENS, M. P. 1991. **The Botanical Literature of Mississippi.** Museum Technical Report 12. (pbk). Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, 111 North Jefferson Street, Jackson, MS 39202. Price unknown. 50 pp.

This spiral-bound book gives bibliographic data for and indexes to 327 references on Mississippi botany, including plants *sensu stricto* with fungi and soils thrown in for good measure. The five indexes are to scientific and common names, geographic localities, plant communities, subjects, and authors. Only a few states have similar guides. This is a fine model.—*John W. Thieret*.

VASEY, DANIEL E. 1992. **An Ecological History of Agriculture. 10,000 B.C.—A.D. 10,000.** (ISBN 0-8138-0909-6, hbk). Iowa State University Press, Ames, IA 50010. \$34.95. 363 pp.

This book describes the past and present agricultural systems and looks at the future possibilities. Chapter 1 addresses the ecological approach. Chapter 2 describes the origins of agriculture. Chapter 3 discusses the overview of pre-industrial agriculture. Chapter 4 describes the pastoralism. Chapters 5 and 6 discuss the tropics, dry lands, and dry summer lands. Chapter 7 describes the humid temperate lands. Chapter 8 addresses the population and agriculture. Chapter 9 examines the rise of industrial agriculture. Chapter 10 describes the industrial agriculture to the present. Chapter 11 surveys the special problems of developed countries and the possible role of agriculture in solving them. The final chapter addresses the future. There is a glossary and an index. This book could be used by anthropologists, geographers, agricultural historians and others concerned with agriculture and its history.—*Krishna Puttaparthi*.